

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-07 TRSE-00 CU-02 IO-13 OIC-02 /079 W
-----063913 031603Z /44

O R 031435Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1844

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 5245

FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV

FROM USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE BELGRADE: US-SOVIET BILATERAL AUGUST 2

SUMMARY: AT US-SOVIET BILATERAL DINNER AUGUST 2 WE PRESSED SOVIETS TO ACCEPT A TEXT FOR ORGANIZATIONAL POINT 13 WHICH WOULD MEET MINIMAL WESTERN DEMANDS. SOVIETS RAISED NEW PROBLEMS WITH FORMULATION FOR CONCLUSION OF WORKING BODIES WHICH THEY HAD AGREED TO YESTERDAY. THEY ALSO SOUGHT CHANGES IN MINIMAL WESTERN FORMULATION OF LAST SENTENCE. HOWEVER, THEY SAID THEY WISHED TO CONCLUDE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS BY MID-DAY ON AUGUST 3, AND AGREED TO REFLECT ON OUR TEXT. END SUMMARY.

1. AT BILATERAL DINNER GIVEN BY SOVIETS AUGUST 2 (INCLUDING STEPANOV, VORONTOV, KONDRASHEV, AND KUTOVOI, AND EAGLEBURGER, SHERER, MARESCA AND CORIDEN), SOVIETS SAID THEY WISHED TO COMPLETE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS BY MED-DAY
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AUGUST 3, IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO OBTAIN MOSCOW APPROVAL FOR FINAL TEXT BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 5. WE SAID WE ALSO HOPED TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS ON AUGUST 3, AND PRESSED SOVIETS TO ACCEPT MINIMAL WESTERN DEMANDS. SOVIETS BRUSHED ASIDE YESTERDAY'S INCIDENT IN WHICH VORONTOV HAD CLAIMED PREVIOUS AGREEMENT ON LAST SENTENCE OF POINT 13 (CONCLUSION OF MAIN MEETING). HOWEVER, VORONTOV CLAIMED THAT WORSAW

PACT ALLIES HAD OBJECTED TO AGREED FORMULATION FOR THIRD SENTENCE (CONCLUSION OF WORKING BODIES), AND THAT THEY NOW HAD TO INSIST ON THE ADDITION OF A CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT TO BE RECORDED IN DAILY JOURNAL, WHICH WOULD STATE THAT SUBMISSION OF FINAL REPORTS WOULD TERMINATE WORK OF WORKING BODIES. (COMMENT: THIS POSSIBILITY HAS ALREADY BEEN REJECTED BY WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN CONTACT GROUP, EVEN AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO USE OF THE PHRASE "FINAL REPORTS", S IT DOES NOT SEEM THAT IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE IN ADDITION TO USE OF "FINAL REPORTS". END COMMENT.) WE TOLD SOVIETS THIS WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE.

2. WE THEN TRIED ON SOVIETS, AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED WITH UK DEL, A FORMULATION FOR FINAL SENTENCE WHICH IK DEL HAD SAID EC-9 WOULD SUPPORT:

"IN ANY CASE, THE MEETING WILL END ONLY AFTER FULFILLING ITS TASKS, INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF A CONCLUDING DOCUMENT AND THE FIXING OF A DATE AND PLACE FOR THE NEXT SIMILAR MEETING."

SOVIETS REJECTED THIS OUT OF HAND, STATING VEHEMENTLY THAT IS REPRESENTED A LARGE STEP BACKWARD FROM PRESENT NEGOTIATING SITUATION. (COMMENT: UK FORMULATION IS INDEED A STEP BACKWARD, SINCE IT BRINGS IN CONCEPT OF "FULFILLING ITS TASKS", WHICH HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN RELATION TO THE FINAL SENTENCE FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH. AT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SAME TIME, IT ALSO REPRESENTS A STEP FORWARD BY THE UK DEL WHICH HAS CONSISTENTLY SAID THEY COULD ONLY ACCEPT A NEGATIVE FORMULATION OF THE LAST SENTENCE. END COMMENT.)

3. WE THEN HANDED THE SOVIETS A NON-PAPER SHOWING A COMPOSITE PARAGRAPH 13 WHICH WE SAID REPRESENTED ABSOLUTE MINIMUM WESTERN DEMANDS AND WHICH WE THOUGHT COULD BE ACCEPTED ON AUGUST 3, ALTHOUGH WE WARNED SOVIETS THAT EVEN THIS WOULD BE DIFFICULT. OUR COMPOSITE PARAGRAPH IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

13. THE MEETING WILL OPEN ON OCTOBER 4, 1977 AT 11 A.M. BETWEEN THE 21ST OF NOVEMBER AND THE 9TH OF DECEMBER THE PLENARY WILL RECEIVE FINAL REPORTS FROM THE SUBSIDIARY WORKING BODIES IN ORDER TO BE GIVEN ENOUGH TIME TO DRAFT THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, IF THE DRAFTING WORK IS NOT COMPLETED BY THE SUBSIDIARY WORKING BODIES THE PLENARY WILL TAKE THE APPROPRIATE STEPS, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF THE DRAFTING GROUPS NECESSARY FOR THIS PURPOSE. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO AGREE ON THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT NOT LATER THAN 22 DECEMBER 1977. IF BY THAT DATE THIS IS NOT

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O R 031435Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1845
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 5245

FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV, FROM USDEL CSCE

ACCOMPLISHED, WORK WILL BE RESUMED MID-JANUARY TO LAST
UNTIL MID-FEBRUARY TO COMPLETE THE DRAFTING OF THE CON-
CLUDING DOCUMENT. IN ANY CASE, THE MEETING MUST ADOPT ITS
CONCLUDING DOCUMENT, AND SET THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT
SIMILAR MEETING, BEFORE TERMINATING ITS WORK. THE MEET-
ING WILL CONCLUDE WITH A FORMAL CLOSING SESSION. END TEXT.

4. SOVIETS STUDIED THIS PARAGRAPH CAREFULLY. WE EXPLAINED
THAT DATES IN SECOND SENTENCE WOULD STILL BE VERY
DIFFICULT, SINCE SOME DELS FELT STRONGLY THAT THEY SHOULD BE
SHIFTED ONE WEEK LATER. WE SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE
TO ADD A CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT OF THE KIND THE SOVIETS WANTED,
ALTHOUGH SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENT TO THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT
ON ORGANIZATIONAL POINT 3 MIGHT BE POSSIBLE (SUCH AS INCLU-
SION OF THE PHRASE "FINAL REPORTS"). WE CALLED ATTENTION TO
NEXT-TO-LAST SENTENCE, WHICH IS BASICALLY FRENCH FORMULATION
OF PREVIOUS DAY WITH WORDING SLIGHTLY REARRANGED, AND TOLD
THE SOVIETS THAT WE HAD ADDED THE FINAL SENTENCE IN AN EFFORT
TO MEET THE SOVIET DESIRE TO END THE PAPER ON A MORE
POSITIVE NOTE. WE URGED THE SOVIETS TO DISCUSS THE PAPER WITH
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THEIR ALLIES.

5. THE SOVIETS DID NOT REJECT THE NON-PAPER OUT-OF-HAND. THEY ARGUED STRONGLY FOR ADDITION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT, AND LESS FORCEFULLY FOR CHANGES IN NEXT-TO-LAST SENTENCE (THEY WISH TO CHANGE "MUST ADOPT" TO "WILL END WITH ADOPTION OF "AND TO DELETE" BEFORE TERMINATING ITS WORK"). WE SAID SUCH CHANGES WOULD DESTROY THE BALANCE OF THE PARAGRAPH AND MAKE IT UNACCEPTABLE.

6. BOTH SIDES AGREED TO REFLECT ON THE OTHER'S SUGGESTIONS, AND TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE CAUCUSES MORNING OF AUG 3.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: CSCE BELGRADE: US-SOVIET BILATERAL AUGUST 2 SUMMARY: AT US-SOVIET BILATERAL DINNER AUGUST 2 WE PRESSED SOVIETS TO ACCEPT A TEXT FOR ORGANIZATIONAL POINT
TAGS: MARR, OCON, US, UR, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8199144f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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